



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY HOSTS AUTHOR TALK FEATURING NEW *SAN DIEGO NOIR* CRIME FICTION COLLECTION *15 of San Diego's Best Writers Contribute Crime Stories Set in San Diego Region*

SAN DIEGO – The San Diego Public Library will host a very special book talk featuring *San Diego Noir*, a collection of crime fiction short stories set in San Diego by some of the regions' best known writers, on Wednesday, July 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Central Library located at 820 E Street, downtown San Diego. *San Diego Noir* editor Maryelizabeth Hart and contributors Jeffrey J. Mariotte, Martha C. Lawrence, Ken Kuhlken, Diane Clark, and Lisa Brackman will be present to read from and discuss the book. Copies will be available for signing and purchase.

The *San Diego Union-Tribune* writes of *San Diego Noir*: "When it's done right, noir is a darkly delicious thrill: smart, sharp-tongued, surprising. The knife goes in at the end with a twist. *San Diego Noir*, a new 15-story collection by some of the region's best writers, has all that going for it, and the steady supply of hometown references makes it even more fun."

With *San Diego Noir*, Akashic Books continues its groundbreaking series of original noir anthologies. Launched with the summer 2004 award-winning best seller *Brooklyn Noir*, each book is comprised of all-new stories, each one set in a distinct neighborhood or location within the city of the book. Through the stories in *San Diego Noir*, readers can visit many of the popular local sites, as well as some prosaic areas that are more familiar to residents than tourists.

San Diego is home to miles of beaches, Balboa Park, a world-famous zoo, and some of the country's most expensive home and resort real estate. Yet the city also houses a few items that aren't actively promoted by the visitor's bureau: a number of the country's most corrupt politicians, border-related crimes, terrorists, and the occasional earthquakes. A noir feast!

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In the 50-plus years since Raymond Chandler set *Playback* in Esmeralda, his name for La Jolla, the population has grown by more than a million, and crime has proliferated as well. San Diego of the past and the present offers the book's contributors a rich selection of settings, from the cross on Mount Soledad to the piers of Ocean Beach, and perpetrators and victims from the residents of its wealthiest enclaves to the inhabitants of its segregated barrios.

In addition to Brackman, San Diego Noir features brand-new stories by: T. Jefferson Parker, Jeffrey J. Mariotte, Martha Lawrence, Diane Clark & Astrid Bear, Debra Ginsberg, Morgan Hunt, Ken Kuhlken, Taffy Cannon, Don Winslow, Cameron Pierce Hughes, Gabriel R. Barillas, Gar Anthony Haywood, and Maria Lima.

San Diego Noir is edited by Maryelizabeth Hart, co-owner of Mysterious Galaxy, San Diego's venerable independent mystery and science fiction bookstore. In addition to her bookseller responsibilities, she is a reviewer for *Publishers Weekly* and an occasional contributor to works of nonfiction, including *Women in Science Fiction and Fantasy*.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library's Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials online in the Library's catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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